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Probably the author overrates the homogeneity of European nations due to long settled populations and underrates the molding influence of American education and spirit on immigrants. Several European nations are surely tested by the presence of unassimilated racial elements, while hardly any nation is so homogeneous and unified as to national sentiment as the inhabitants of the United States.

The social and economic evils of America, he says, are the products of this rampant, irresponsible, property-loving individualism. The welfare of society, the race, and the future of the nation have had no one to look after them.

Mr. Wells thinks that the reserved and unostentatious portions of American plutocracy may feel the need of the "service of the state," and do something for the collectivity. He has little expectation that the states will endow their state universities liberally enough to make them forces of redeeming leadership.

But these criticisms are not intended to veil appreciation of the useful and valuable nature of the work. While *Social forces in England and America* would not rank high as a scientific treatment of the systematic and academic sort, it is nevertheless well worth the perusal and thoughtful consideration of all intelligent students of contemporary society, be they social scientists or not. Few men have as profound a knowledge of the achievements and tendencies of modern science as has Mr. Wells, and perhaps no one so much as he has striven to comprehend where the operations of scientific discoveries may land us.

JOHN M. GILLETTE

Problems in political evolution. By Raymond Garfield Gettell, M. A., Northam professor of history and political science, Trinity College. (Boston, New York, Chicago, and London: Ginn and Company, 1914. 400 p. \$2.00)

The opportune appearance of Gettell's *Problems in political evolution* adds to rapidly accumulating testimony one more bit of evidence that the day of particularism in academic output is rapidly passing. The author realizes quite clearly the fundamental principle that the reality of an institution lies in its relations to all other institutions which surround it. Accordingly he rests his treatise upon the assumptions of "the essential unity and continuous development of the state," "the interrelation among all the aspects of political existence" (p. iv), and the intimate connection between political development and development in the complementary fields of social institutions, industry, jurisprudence, religion, intellectual systems, etc. These forces as antecedent conditions he brings to bear upon the course of political evolution. His realization of the complexity of the problems with which he deals leads him to de-

part still further from the conventional methods of particularism in the antidogmatic attitude that characterizes the volume. "Its purpose is to state problems, not to solve them" (p. iv).

The courage and industry responsible for so comprehensive a piece of work deserve the highest praise. The author, in thirteen short chapters, surveys the whole of the political field from a standpoint closely akin to that of modern sociology. His discussions include such topics as the evolution, nature, origin, composition, and form of the state; the fundamental institutions of the state and the scope of state activities; the relations between states; and current political conditions and tendencies. Each of these subjects resolves itself into a number of smaller subjects, and each of the latter is discussed in its general social setting. To his task the author has brought a very large amount of reading, and a large and varied assortment of facts garnered from many fields. Erudition appears on every page.

The factors which disturb the problem and prevent adequate accomplishment are very largely in the extensive scope of the subject covered. Extremely complex problems have to be discussed in quite brief compass. This leads too often to adorning the text with trite sayings, truisms, or facts quite interesting in themselves, but which contribute nothing towards associating the aspect of the subject discussed with the larger problem which the author is considering. Repeated examples of this are found in the chapter on the influences affecting political evolution. The impossibility of properly condensing extended investigations in particular fields into short general conclusions must at times have proved very discouraging to the author. Certainly the difficulty of the task has led to many extremely questionable conclusions. The following are typical: "The democracy of the nineteenth century is largely the result of the Industrial Revolution" (p. 32); "Until the opening of the eighteenth century. . . Men looked backward rather than forward" (p. 42); under nomadic conditions "except for articles of personal use . . . property was unknown" (p. 91); "commerce very often 'follows the flag'" (p. 342). The immense amount of material to be sifted has led, too, to the use of some very questionable sources and to the neglect of the most reliable authorities in some fields. One would, for instance, hardly think of quoting Seligman's *Principles of economics* as authority for a statement of the relation of population to food supply (pp. 147-148), or of referring to Brooks Adams in discussing the wars between Rome and Carthage. On immigration, in view of a number of recent authoritative treatises, it is unfortunate that the author has relied upon the biased Hall.

To the reviewer the chief fault of the book lies in the mechanical way

in which it has been put together. Attention throughout is directed to the more objective and formal side of social development. Evidence of this is found in the fact that the author makes the political the central thing in his general study in social evolution. Moreover the larger institutional relationships and the larger lines of development are seen by the author only in their mechanical relations. They have not as yet taken such form in his own mind that he sees the whole course of political development as an organic whole, nor has his mind as yet elaborated a synthetic theory of the relation of political to other social institutions. This fault, if it be a fault, is partly due to the pioneer character of his work; it is the price which men who do new things have to pay for their initiative. It is partly due to the fact that the author needs a few years properly to assimilate and organize the large mass of material which his energy has permitted him to gather together. The reviewer enters his modest prayer that the author revise his book, or more properly, write another book covering the same field from the same point of view ten years from now. Meanwhile the book is a most valuable contribution alike to the theory and to the pedagogical materials of political science.

WALTON H. HAMILTON

Conciliation and arbitration in the coal industry of America. By Arthur E. Suffern, M. A., sometime lecturer in economics, Columbia University. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1915. 376 p. \$2.00 net)

This essay was awarded the first Hart, Schaffner, and Marx prize in class A, open to any American without restriction, for the year 1913, and was later published as volume XVIII of the same series. It is therefore hardly necessary to observe that the work is the result of a thorough and fairly exhaustive investigation of the source material, that the statements of fact are fortified with references to the authorities consulted, and that the conclusions are generally speaking justified by the facts presented in the text.

Notwithstanding its somewhat unusual merits, the book is open to serious criticism upon certain points, some of which are apparently due to the conditions under which it was written, and others to the individual views of the author. First, the title of the book fails to indicate even fairly well its scope and purpose. Primarily it is a study of collective bargaining, and of the growth and development of the joint conferences between the miners' unions and the operators' associations. While the title would indicate that it was limited to American conditions, a long chapter is included on the adjustment of wages in the British coal industry. Furthermore, a large amount of space is devoted to the subject